

Buena Vista
U.S. Route 13, 1.2 miles
south of U.S. Route 40
Tybouts Corner Vicinity
New Castle County
Delaware

HABS No. DE-206

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE DELAWARE	COUNTY NEW CASTLE	TOWN OR VICINITY TYBOUT'S CORNER VICINITY
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) BUENA VISTA (family papers)		HABS NO. DE-206
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) U.S. Route 13, 1.2 miles south of U.S. Route 40		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1845-47 (family papers)	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Buena Vista was built as the country home of John M. Clayton who was secretary of State under President Zachary Taylor. He negotiated the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. Previous and subsequent to this he served 3 terms as U.S. Senator. In this house he entertained (cont.)		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Greek Revival		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick-bearing wall, wood joists and floors, cement floor in basement, standing seam metal roof, wood windows and doors in wood surrounds, cast iron balustrades		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Rectangular with rectangular wings to rear and south side		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Red brick exterior walls, endwalls project above roofline to form a stone-capped parapet terminating at double endwall chimneys which are connected by a cast-iron balustrade running around the flat of the roof, full-length facade porch supported by Doric columns and (cont.)		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) Interior contains a center stair hall flanked on one side by a dining room which runs the full width of the house and on the other side by the parlor and music rooms. The upstairs is similarly arranged. Features include plaster crown moulding, marble mantels, and (cont.)		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES South wing which contains large stair hall and large library downstairs and bedrooms upstairs was added in the twentieth century		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE The condition of the house is excellent. It is presently Delaware's State Conference and Reception Center.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) National Register of Historic Places; Delaware Cultural Resource Survey (N-219); Eberlein and Hubbard, <u>Historic Houses of Delaware</u>		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Joan N. Larrivee, State of Delaware, Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs		DATE May 22, 1986

SIGNIFICANCE (cont.)

many of the National figures of the period. The house was set on several hundred acres of land and Clayton became an active and persistent promotor of land conservation and improvement of farming practices. Buena Vista was also the home of C. Douglas Buck, Clayton's great grandson. Buck was governor of Delaware from 1929-1937 and also served as a U.S. Senator. He bequeathed the house to the State of Delaware.

INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (cont.)

door surrounds with bulls-eye corner blocks. Throughout the original section of the house and Colonial Revival detailing including panelled wainscotting, fluted doric pilasters and crossetted windows surrounds in the 20th century wing.

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (cont.)

surmounted by a cast iron rail, tall inward-opening casement windows on main block, multi-pane double hung sash on the rear ell and side addition, main frontispiece with quarrelled sidelights and transom set in a simple surround.